

21 December 1972

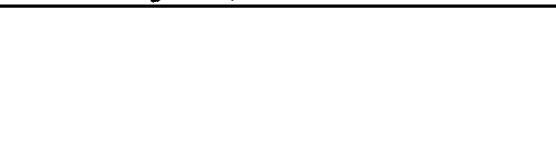
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1. On Thursday, 14 December 1972, the scheduled meeting of the Automated Information Exchange Review Group took place in the conference room of the OASD(I) at the Pentagon. Those attending included the following:

Dr. M. Malkin, OASD(I) Chairman
Mr. Norman Solat, OASD(I) Executive Secretary



Mr. John Deary, State
Mr. Stigers, State



2. Dr. Malkin, the chairman, opened the meeting promptly at 0930 hours and requested [redacted] introduce the speakers. Mary Anne Saras, representing [redacted] presented a briefing with slides on the use and operations of the COINS system over the past 12 months. Included in the presentation by Miss Saras were statistics on the use of the system by various customers, the identification of the files most frequently queried, average turnaround times, system problems including queries not answered, queries aborted, training queries, and delays occasioned by maintenance stand-downs and the addition of new users to the systems. Dr. Malkin and other members offered some criticism of the bar graphs used to array the data, stating that the graphic presentations were not clearly illustrative of the main trends of the study nor of the

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general conclusions of the report. Mr. Hicken made the point that the study was undertaken for the purpose of evaluating the COINS system as it was originally set up and in no way anticipated the present evaluation of COINS which is the task of Dr. Malkin's group. Dr. Malkin admitted that this was so but nevertheless regretted that it did not address some of the questions on COINS that were presently under study.

3. A second report was made by Dr. Adams of IBM who was engaged by [redacted] to devise a system wherein a qualitative evaluation of COINS might be derived to complement the quantitative evaluation of COINS performed [redacted]

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4. Finally, a third speaker, Dr. Arnold Dumey, a private consultant [redacted]

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[redacted] provided the results of a survey he conducted among people in various agencies actually involved either in the operations or the use of COINS as an input to intelligence reports. Based on some 50-odd interviews, Dr. Dumey found that COINS was not extensively used because of a lack of faith in the system. This lack of faith was due to a belief that COINS files either were not maintained on a current basis or that the files themselves were not important. There was also opposition to COINS because of the inherent security problems associated with a community system such as this.

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5. Dr. Malkin thanked all the speakers, reminded the group that the next meeting would occur on Wednesday, 20 December, in the same conference room, and adjourned the meeting.

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